

NO DICK-TO-DICK NOTE IN RECORDS

Vain Search for Letter
Bearing on Controller
Bay Charges.

TESTIMONY FAILS TO LIFT MYSTERY

President Recalls No Reference
to Matter by His Brother,
Charles P. Taft—Dennett
Says Original Order Open-
ing Land Changed Be-
fore Promulgation.

Washington, July 11.—The story of a vanishing letter, both addressed and signed "Dick," from Richard S. Ryan, of New York, to Richard A. Ballinger, then Secretary of the Interior, purporting to show that Charles P. Taft had influenced his brother, President Taft, to forward the alleged dis-covery of Guggenheim interests to acquire Controller Bay, the only outlet for large coal fields in Southern Alaska, figured in a congressional inquiry begun to-day.

The testimony before the House Committee on Expenditures in the Interior Department, and statements from the White House and from Charles P. Taft's offices failed to lift the mystery enshrouding the alleged letter Commissioner Dennett, of the General Land Office, the only witness to-day testifies that he knew nothing of it, and that he would not neces-sarily know of its existence, and such a letter was not recalled in any other quarter. The letter was not to be found in the files, though Miss M. F. Abbott, a newspaper writer, who will testify later, says she had a document from the official files. President Taft has expressed confidence that his brother never communicated with him on the subject, either orally or in writing.

Miss Abbott, already subpoenaed as a witness, probably will appear before the committee Wednesday.

Among the witnesses the committee will summon is Ashmun Brown, a Seattle newspaper man, who was private secretary to Secretary Ballinger and who, according to Miss Abbott, presented to the president the alleged Ryan-Ballinger letter.

It was stated at the White House to-day that a careful search of the files in the executive offices failed to reveal any record of a letter to the President from Charles P. Taft concerning Ryan's bearing in any way upon the Controller Bay affair.

Testimony of Dennett.
The most important development to-day was the testimony of Commissioner Dennett by Richard S. Ryan, of New York, said to represent the Guggenheim interests, and who was charged with the omission of one provision in the filing of the papers.

Mr. Dennett said that when the executive order opening the Controller Bay land to entry reached his office it contained a provision under which the entrymen could not file on the land for sixty days after the order was issued. In some way or other he did not know how, he said, this provision was lost or eliminated before the final promulgation of the order.

Mr. Dennett said that the first draft, which, in accordance with the usual custom, was prepared at the Department of Agriculture, contained the sixty days' provision, but that it was not in the order as finally signed by the President.

"Who struck it out?"
"I do not know,"

Chairman Graham, of the committee, asked Mr. Dennett to furnish copies of all telegrams and correspondence regarding the Controller Bay claims and the report dealing with the survey made there.

Statement by Fisher.
Secretary Fisher, of the Interior Department, issued a statement to-day concerning the interview attributed to Miss Abbott, in which she referred to a postscript to a letter from Mr. Ryan to Secretary Ballinger.

"No reference whatever," says Mr. Fisher, "was made in the interview to what Miss Abbott very properly calls the 'amazing postscript,' which she says she found attached to a letter to Secretary Ballinger from Mr. Ryan, nor was this postscript ever mentioned or referred to in any other interview which I have ever had with Miss Abbott, or any one else prior to its publication in a Philadelphia news-paper."

"I am told upon my return to-day that the most diligent search of the records of this office has failed to disclose any such document, and every one who has searched the record says most emphatically that he has never seen this postscript, or any other

writing of this character. This includes Mr. Brown, who was private secretary to Secretary Ballinger."

The President's Recollection.
President Taft has made no direct or indirect statement about what has come to be known as the Controller Bay, Alaska, case. His only concern about the matter has been as to the attempt to connect his brother, C. P. Taft, now in Europe, with the matter. In the Controller Bay records in the Interior Department the alleged discovery was made that R. S. Ryan, representing the Controller Bay Company, wrote to Secretary Ballinger that he had sent for C. P. Taft and told him that the President, whom he really represented, had said that he had every scrap of his correspondence with C. P. Taft searched, and nowhere finds the slightest reference to the Controller Bay matter. He does not re-member, it is said, that his brother ever spoke of the subject to him, and it is evident that there was no reference to it, either orally or in correspondence.

The President has always referred with some pride to the claim that C. P. Taft has consistently kept out of business, appointments and otherwise. He has often stated that his brother has steadfastly refrained from recommendations or suggestions as to appointments or other business, even in Ohio, where Senator Burton has had undisputed sway in patronage.

There was a tacit understanding, it is said, that C. P. Taft should be allowed control of the patronage in Southern Ohio and Senator Burton have the other part of the State. Mr. Taft failed to accept this opportunity and left everything to Senator Burton.

No Secrecy Observed.
At the White House it was said that there had been no secrecy or anything unusual in the order opening Controller Bay to entry. The matter was passed upon by the Cabinet in regular form. It was stated, however, that it is explained that R. S. Ryan, representing the Controller Bay Navigation Company, secured a frontage of eighty rods on Controller Bay. The government retained every other eighty rods of the water front on the bay, making the department officials declare a monopoly impossible.

No Letters in C. P. Taft's Files.
Cincinnati, July 10.—At the request of President Taft the letter files of his brother, Charles P. Taft, were searched here to-day for trace of possible correspondence with the President, Richard S. Ryan, or other persons regarding Controller Bay affairs or Alaskan lands. No letter bearing upon the subject was found, and so far as the files in Mr. Taft's office show he had no acquaintance with Mr. Ryan or any interest in any Alaskan investment. Mr. Taft is in Europe.

TWO ERROR WRITS IN DAMAGE SUIT

Appeals Taken by Parties Who
Lost as Result of Elevator
Accident.

In two cases resulting from the recent death of Walter B. Gwyn, a prominent resident of Norfolk, in an elevator accident, the Supreme Court of Appeals yesterday allowed writs of error. The point involved in one case is as to the liability of certain defendants for damages because of the situation regarding a lease and in other the doctrine of the "last clear chance" as applied to his case is assailed.

Mr. Gwyn, while ascending to his office in the Dickinson Building in an elevator, met his death. The elevator seems to indicate that after the door had passed the third floor he called "third" and the boy operating the elevator returned to that floor. He opened the door and Mr. Gwyn tried to step out. Either the elevator started down again or else it did not stop at all, and Mr. Gwyn was caught between the roof of the car and the sill of the third floor, suffering fatal injuries.

Got Limit of Damages.
The widow, Mrs. Helen C. Gwyn, sued for and obtained \$10,000 damages, naming the Real Estate Trust and Insurance Company, the Courtney Realty Corporation, Robert A. Wainwright and Charles McIntosh, Funstall as defendants. It seems that William C. Dickson had conveyed the leasehold on the property for a term of years to the Real Estate Trust Company, Wainwright and McIntosh, and that these in turn had transferred it to the Courtney Realty Corporation. However, the salaries paid for care of the building were disbursed, and the rents collected by the other corporation, the officers of the two being the same.

The petitioners in one case set forth that the Courtney Realty Corporation alone is responsible, as the lessee, and that the others cannot be held. The Courtney company invoked the "last clear chance" doctrine, claiming that Mr. Gwyn was guilty of contributory negligence to such an extent, and within the instant in which all the events occurred, that the doctrine does not apply.

UMPIRE'S LIP SPLIT BY SHERWOOD MAGEE

Philly Player Attacks Indicator Handler Because
of Decision, and Now He Must Go to Hos-
pital for Repairs—Finneran
Was the Man.

Philadelphia, Pa., July 10.—During the third inning of to-day's game between the Philadelphia and St. Louis National League baseball clubs, Sherwood Magee, left fielder of the home team, made an assault upon Umpire Finneran. The latter's lip was split, and he was compelled to go to a hospital to have it sewed up.

In the second inning Magee made a big kick when he was called out by Umpire Rigger while trying to steal second base. In the next inning Magee was scalded out on strikes by Umpire Finneran. Magee threw his bat in the air and started away from the plate. For this exhibition of disapproval of the umpire's judgment Finneran ordered him to the clubhouse. Magee turned and made a rush at Finneran, who stepped towards the player. The men clinched for a second. Then Magee stepped back and, pushing Finneran away, shot out his left with

full force. The blow landed on Finneran's mouth, and he fell to the ground as if knocked out. Although dazed by the unexpected assault, a score of players rushed to the spot, with Assistant Umpire Rigger.

Finneran finally managed to get to his feet. Blood was flowing from the gash in his lip. Finneran made a rush toward Magee, but he was held by the players. Magee then walked to the home team's bench, and Finneran, breaking away from the players and Rigger, ran after him. At the bench Finneran had to be again forcibly restrained from mixing it up with the left fielder. Rigger finished the game alone. Magee claims that the assault was provoked by Finneran calling him an offensive name when he was ordered off the field.

Umpire Finneran denies that he called Magee any names. "I simply told him to get out of the game," said Finneran.

Pertinent Comment BY GUS MALBERT

Over in the city of Washington they are talking of trying to buy a franchise in the Virginia League. The noise makers in the Washington would be welcomed with open arms and purses. So far as the story goes the inference is plain that no opposition to the American League team, now enjoying franchise rights in the capital of the nation, is given in fact, it is clearly stated that should Washington be successful in securing a berth in the Virginia League a scheduled league would be formed which would make the playing days in that city occur when the major league team was away on a trip.

One of the advantages pointed out by the writer of the story is that Sunday ball could be played, such games being permitted at Union League Park, in Washington. However, Sunday baseball for the Virginia League is, to say the least, a questionable advantage. The probability is that should such a proposition be brought before the magnates it would be promptly voted down, regardless of its attractiveness from a financial standpoint. But this is going a little ahead of the horse to market.

There are several things to be done before Washington could get into the Virginia League. First, the consent of the Washington club of the American League must be secured. Then a franchise must be secured in this league. With due regard for the sincerity of the author of the story, it must be largely regarded as an improbability, for the officials of the Washington club would hardly invite opposition.

Magnate Bradley fairly secured a pitcher last Sunday. He went all the way to Newport News to do it, but at the last moment a hitch occurred and broke off the deal. He started at once in another direction, and promises that the needed twirler will be on hand to win many games for the Colts.

Petersburg is now in fifth place, having dropped yesterday's game to Lynchburg. Despite the wall which is being sent out from the Hill City the fact of the matter is that the Shoe-makers are really playing great baseball, and if some of the other managers don't look out will be contenders for that tag.

Chicago is in first place, and the Phillies and Giants are tied for second in the National League. As another writer puts it, this up and down traveling of the teams under the big top is nerve-racking, to say the least. It is better in the American League, for only two teams must be watched—Detroit and the Athletics—but in the National five of them are so closely bunched that each day brings a bunch of changes, and no man can guess what the changes will be.

Tidewater League

Clubs.	Won.	Lost.	P.C.
Elizabeth City.....	4	0	1.000
Norfolk.....	4	0	1.000
Newport News.....	2	2	.500
Elizabeth City.....	2	2	.500
Old Point.....	4	0	1.000
Portsmouth.....	0	4	.000

Where They Play To-day.
Newport News at Suffolk.
Norfolk at Old Point.
Portsmouth at Elizabeth City.

Elizabeth City Won.
Elizabeth City, N. C., July 10.—Elizabeth City won again to-day, defeating the Portsmouth Pirates.
Score by innings: R. H. E.
Portsmouth.....1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0—2 8 3
Elizabeth City.....0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0—8 4
Batteries: Henchey and Cole; Stafford and Seifert. Umpire, Hennegar.

Nancies Win.
Suffolk, Va., July 10.—In a hard-fought game that was featured by the hitting of Charles, of Newport News, and the all-round work of Catcher Klock, of Suffolk, the Nancies beat the Shipbuilders by one run.
Score by innings: R. H. E.
Newport News.....0 0 0 4 0 0 0 2—6 8 3
Suffolk.....0 2 0 0 0 4 1 7—7 9 1
Batteries: Gunderson, Thompson and Rogers; Sweeney and Klock.

Shortstop Hurt.
Hampton, Va., July 10.—Norfolk defeated Old Point this afternoon in an uninteresting game which ended in a 6-to-7 score in the visitors' favor. Gil, the Norfolk shortstop, was painfully hurt by a pitched ball and had to retire, his left arm being badly lacerated.
Score by innings: R. H. E.
Old Point.....4 0 0 0 0 1 1 0—6 7 1
Norfolk.....1 0 0 0 2 2 1 1—7 14 0
Batteries: Old Point—Morley and Sienick. Norfolk—High and Lucia.

Destroyed by Fire.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
LaCrosse, Va., July 10.—Last night about midnight the old store building belonging to Dr. B. J. Montgomery was burned to ashes. This building was occupied by B. W. Smith, Mr. Smith's furniture and \$114 in cash in a pocketbook were lost in the flames.

Vanderbilt a Winner.
Paris, July 10.—The Prix de Saules run at St. Cloud to-day was won by W. K. Vanderbilt's Reinhardt.

SEA NETTLES STOP SWIMMER

Vance Veitch, Trying for Record,
Between Old Point and Nor-
folk, Forced to Quit.

Norfolk, Va., July 10.—Vance Veitch, champion long distance swimmer of Philadelphia, failed yesterday afternoon in an attempt to establish a new record by breasting the tides and currents between the Old Point docks and the wharves at the foot of Bate street. The strong swimmer had covered about seven miles when the sting of sea nettles cramped his right leg and he gave up the attempt for the present. Several hundred persons saw the start at Old Point.

Land's Head Split Open.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Danville, Va., July 10.—The little son of Rev. and Mrs. S. F. Nix, of Pelham, N. C., had his head split open this afternoon by getting in the way of an axe in the hand of his brother, who was cutting wood. The fast train for the North by mere chance happened to stop at the station and the little fellow was brought here for treatment. He will recover.

Bond Election To-day.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Danville, Va., July 10.—To-morrow the bond issue election will be held, and the citizens of Danville will be given the opportunity to vote as to whether they will improve the city electric light plant and repave North Main Street, the former to be done at a cost of \$150,000 and the latter at \$30,000.

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RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

THANKS PUBLIC FOR GREAT HELP

Chairman of the Ice Mission
Gives Amounts Contributed
to Poor.

The Times-Dispatch has received the following from Mrs. C. E. Bolling, chairman of the Ice Mission:
"I beg to acknowledge the many generous contributions sent in response to the appeals in behalf of the Ice Mission, and to return thanks to all who have so kindly aided in the effort to relieve the suffering entailed by the intense heat of the past two months."

Despite the unprecedented demand, no requests have been denied, and hundreds of the sick and suffering have received the benefit of a daily supply of ice. In addition to contributions already acknowledged, the list below has been received since the last report, and grateful thanks are extended to all who have contributed.

Through The Times-Dispatch.	\$223 27
From Loving Band, Second Presbyterian Church.....	5 00
From "A Grandmother".....	1 00
"Cash".....	1 00
Ruby Bliger and Thelma Letich.....	81
"Miss M. Lynn, Mass.....	1 00
"In Memoriam" M. F. M.....	5 00
Miriam Society, Second Presby-terian Church.....	5 00
Through the News Leader office.....	48 10
From box at Crenshaw's.....	1 25
From box at Tragle's.....	2 26
From box at Grant Drug Co.'s.....	1 74
From box at T. A. Miller's.....	2 03
From box at Miller & Rhoads's.....	3 32
From box at Shepherd's.....	8 37
From box at Childers Drug Co.'s.....	14 40
From box at Woman's Exchange.....	3 38
From box at Times-Dispatch of- fice.....	27 85

SEVEN KILLED BY HEAT

Health Board Gives That as Record for Present Summer.
Seven deaths from heat this year—four of them during the present spell—are listed by the Board of Health, while in almost every classification the death rate is believed to have been increased by heat as a contributing factor. Deaths directly due to heat are:

Odell Green, colored, age eleven months, died May 21.
Alfred Walton, age fifty-nine, 2415 Park Avenue, overcome and died June 14.
William L. Pierce, aged forty-nine, 1114 West Avenue, overcome and died June 14.
Joseph B. Mahoney, aged sixty, 405 East Main Street, overcome and died July 4.
William Patterson, colored, aged twenty-two, 805 North Sixth Street, overcome and died July 4.
Bridget Hennessey, aged fifty-nine, overcome and died July 4.
Mary Williams, colored, aged one month, overcome and died July 5.

Deaths from prostrations, it is explained, represent but a small fraction of the deaths due directly or indirectly to heat, as that is a contributing cause in practically all cases of infant mortality, while people have died from all manner of diseases whose chances for recovery would have been vastly better in cooler weather.

THUNDER SHOWERS PROMISED TO-DAY

Washington, July 10.—More than a half score of persons succumbed to the heat here to-day, but there were no fatalities. High humidity, coupled with a temperature of 97 degrees, brought suffering and discomfort in the downtown streets the thermometers registered 106 degrees, but thunder showers are promised for to-morrow, and the Weather Bureau holds out promise of less intolerable conditions.

Temporary Relief.
New York, July 10.—A brief thunder shower this evening brought only temporary relief from the heat wave which holds the city. The temperature reached 94 degrees at 3 P. M., and after the storm the mercury stood at 86, and the humidity, which was above 80 per cent, for a portion of the day, was but little relieved.

The report of the Board of Health for the last week shows:
Deaths from sunstroke, 200; deaths from the same cause during corresponding week in 1910, 33. The total deaths for the week were 1,754, against 1,472 for the corresponding week of 1910.

Ice Famine in Gloucester.
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Gloucester, Va., July 10.—There is an ice famine in this section and a supply cannot be secured from Norfolk or Newport News. The regular supply comes by boat from Norfolk, but Saturday not a pound was shipped. There is great suffering among the ill people and children.

PREACHES SERMON IN SHIRT SLEEVES

Can't Raise Pay
at Present Time

Norfolk, Va., July 10.—Rev. G. W. Cox, pastor of Burrows Memorial Baptist Church here, preached in his shirt sleeves last night to a countless congregation. The heat was intense, with the congregation suffering from its severity, when the preacher relieved the situation by suggesting that the male members of the congregation remove their coats, while he preached in his shirt sleeves. The men removed their coats while the woman all took off their hats. The Baptist Ministers' Conference to-day congratulated Rev. Mr. Cox upon his bravery.

Balloons Start ON GREAT RACE

Every Pilot Pleased When
Driven to Northeast by
Wind.

Kansas City, Mo., July 10.—Driven by a fifteen-mile wind from the Southwest, several large gas balloons sailed away from here late to-day in the national elimination balloon race. The two leaders in the contest will be privileged to sail two of the three balloons that will represent the United States in the James Gordon Bennett cup race, which will start from Kansas City on October 4.

Every pilot in the race was pleased when the wind carried them off to the Northwest. The Aero Club, which controls the race, ruled that disqualification would not follow for any of the contestants who should be so unfortunate as to alight in water.

Not a serious accident marred the start. Five of the aerial craft made perfect starts. Too much ballast caused the Topeka II to collide with a canvas fence.

The occupants of the basket were jarred slightly, and after a couple of bags of sand had been dropped, the balloon sailed away.

The Million Population Club, piloted by John M. Barry, did not fill perfectly, and refused to rise for any of the released. Freed a second time, it rose about 150 feet and drifted at that height for a mile. The dropping of ballast then caused the balloon to rise nearly 2,000 feet.

Great interest centered around the New York, because it held the choice starting position, seventh in the race, and also because Augustus Post, the aide, divided honors with Allan R. Hawley in piloting the America II, to victory in the James Gordon Bennett cup race last year. The New York is a new balloon.

A race with a train was run between here and Liberty, Mo., fifteen miles, by the balloon Kansas City. As the train left the ground a passenger train left a station near the aviation field. As Captain Honeywell had to depend on the air currents, the train won by two minutes.

BANK TELLER ARRESTED

Charged With Misappropriation of More Than \$5,000.
Pittsburg, Pa., July 10.—L. A. Kerrigan, paying teller of the Exchange National Bank, was arrested to-day, charged with misappropriating more than \$5,000 of the bank's funds. Kerrigan had charge of the checks that come from a clearing house, and it is alleged that by manipulation he would cause the bookkeeper to make two entries of the same checks, and thus cover up the alleged discrepancies.

COUNTY OFFICERS NAMED AT BOTETOURT CONVENTION
[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
Fincastle, Va., July 10.—The county held its convention here on Saturday and county officers were named by a strong delegation present and much interest shown. There were morning and evening sessions, which culminated in the nomination of the following county officers: C. M. Lunsford, for county representative; W. R. Allen, for Commonwealth's attorney; Turner, for county clerk; R. H. Turner, for county treasurer; O. U. Brugh and J. K. McLaugherty, for commissioners of the revenue for the upper and lower districts.

GILBERT WINNER OF PRELIMINARY

In Match Shoot, He Captures
Hazard Trophy From Lester
S. German.

Wilmington, Del., July 10.—Preliminary to the sixth annual Eastern handicap shoot, which starts to-morrow, Fred Gilbert, of Spirit Lake, Iowa, and Lester S. German, of Aberdeen, Md., two of the best known shots in the country, to-day shot at the Dupont Gun Club for the Hazard trophy, a \$750 cup offered by a powder company, for the double target championship. The match was won by Gilbert by the score of 183 to 178.

CAN'T RAISE PAY AT PRESENT TIME

Chesapeake and Ohio Employees
So Notified by President
Stevens.

President George W. Stevens, of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, has reiterated to the employees of that system that the company will not consider any demand for increased pay until one month after its earnings reach the same point they did in the last six months of last year. Business conditions, he points out, at the present time are such as to net a small profit and not sufficient in proportion to the investment.

The employees of the Chesapeake and Ohio are organized and have made a formal demand for an increase of about 4 cents per hour in their wages. The request for more money has come from carmen, boilermakers, pipelitters, machinists, blacksmiths and helpers. A vote is now being taken to decide what they will do.

Before the railway will accede to the wage increase under prevailing business conditions, according to President Stevens, it will permit its shops to close.

None of the officials of the road could be seen here yesterday. They are at the White Sulphur Springs, engaged with President Stevens in a divisional conference, concerning the affairs and policy of the road, including the impending labor question.

Returns have now begun to come in from the men who are voting whether or not to strike, but it will likely be the end of the week before the result can be known. There is said to be a division among them concerning the advisability of resorting to this drastic action.

SOUTHERN LEAGUE

At Atlanta: Atlanta-Memphis, west grounds.
At Nashville: Nashville, 2; Chattanooga, 0.
At Montgomery: Montgomery, 4; Mobile, 0.
At Birmingham: Birmingham, 9; New Orleans, 5.

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Railroad fare, three meals, lodging, transfer, admission with guide, \$8.50.

Children, \$6.50.
Leave Petersburg Thursday, July 13, 9 A. M.; arrive Luray, 3:40 P. M.; returning, leave Luray Friday, 14th, 3:04 P. M.; arrive Petersburg 10:15.

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